

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KUWAIT 00331 180645Z
ACTION DLOS-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 FEA-01
ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00
CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05
FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-06 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAL-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 /146 W

-----180649Z 075313 /21

O P 180615Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7082
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 0331

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PLOS
SUBJECT: LOS: REGIONAL ARAB MEETING IN CAIRO, JANUARY 18

REF: (A) STATE 9443, (B) 76 KUWAIT 3915, (C) 76 STATE 236687.

1. EMBOFF MADE APPROACH REQUESTED REFTTEL JANUARY 17 TO KUWAITI MFA
LEGAL DEPARTMENT LOS OFFICER, ALI AS-SAMAK. REGARDING SEABED
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KUWAIT 00331 180645Z

MINING, HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE GOK "HAS THE GROUP OF 77 TO
CONTENTEND WITH" AND HE INDICATED THAT KUWAIT WILL ADHERE TO THE
GENERAL "THIRD WORLD" POSITION FOR THE PRESENT. HE DESCRIBED THIS
POSITION AS FAVORING EXCLUSIVE EXPLOITATION OF DEEP SEABED
RESOURCES BY THE "ENTERPRISE." THE U.S. TALKING POINTS ELICITED
NO FURTHER REACTION. (COMMENT: THIS APPEARS TO INDICATE A
HARDENING OF THE KUWAITI POSITION ON THIS ISSUE, IN THE CONTEXT

OF KUWAIT'S GROUP OF 77 AFFILIATION, SINCE WE LAST CONSULTED THE MFA (PARA 3, REF B). SUCH A HARDENING SEEMS IN LINE WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S GENERAL CONCLUSION LAST SEPTEMBER THAT THE SOLIDARITY OF THE GROUP OF 77 ON SEABED ISSUES WAS REINFORCED DURING THE AUGUST-SEPTEMBER LOS CONFERENCE (REF C). IT IS ALSO CONSISTENT WITH THE KUWAITI PRACTICE OF TAGGING ALONG WITH THE MAJORITY IN INTERNATIONAL GROUPS IN WHICH IT FINDS ITSELF, BARRING STRONG NATIONAL INTERESTS TO THE CONTRARY.)

2. ON THE QUESTION OF DEFINING THE OUTER LIMIT OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF WHERE IT EXTENDS BEYOND 200 MILES, BRIEF DISCUSSION MADE IT CLEAR THAT KUWAITIS HAD NOT FOCUSED ON THE QUESTION AND, FOR THEIR OWN PURPOSES, ARE NOT GREATLY INTERESTED IN THE ISSUE. AS-SAMAK SAID THAT GROUP OF 77 IS SPLIT SEVERAL WAYS ON THIS QUESTION, AND HE OPINED THAT KUWAIT WOULD SIDE WITH THE PLURALITY IF POSSIBLE.

3. THE GOK GENERALLY AGREES WITH USG ON THE BROAD PRINCIPLE THAT THE ECONOMIC ZONE SHOULD BE HIGH SEAS, ACCORDING TO AS-SAMAK, WHICH ACCORDS WITH EARLIER AUTHORITATIVE GOK STATEMENT (PARA 6, REF A) AND WITH KUWAITI OIL, MARITIME AND TRADING INTERESTS.

4. REGARDING MARINE POLLUTION ISSUES RELATED TO STANDARDS FOR OIL TANKERS, IT APPEARS THAT THE GOK POSITION IS STILL IN THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPMENT AND THAT ITS FOCUS IS LARGELY REGIONAL (THE PERSIAN GULF). AS THE DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, THE GULF STATES HAVE SCHEDULED AN "OIL POLLUTION" CONFERENCE IN BAHRAIN FOR LATE JANUARY.

5. ON SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, EMBOFF EMPHASIZED THE HARM WHICH
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 KUWAIT 00331 180645Z

GENERAL CONSENT REGIME COULD DO TO SCIENTIFIC INTERESTS, ESPECIALLY IN CONFINED WATERS SUCH AS THE GULF, AND AS-SAMAK EVIDENCED SOME KUWAITI DISCOMFORT WITH THE GROUP OF 77 POSITION GENERALLY FAVORING A BROAD CONSENT REGIME, IN LIGHT OF THE SPECIFIC COASTAL STATE PROTECTION WHICH HE ACKNOWLEDGED COULD BE BUILT INTO THE ECONOMIC ZONE CONCEPT.

6. AS-SAMAK REITERATED EARLIER GOK VIEW FAVORING COMPULSORY SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES (PARA. 4, REF B).

7. AS-SAMAK HAS TOLD US GOK WOULD BE REPRESENTED AT CAIRO "ARAB LOS" MEETING BY OFFICER FROM KUWAIT EMBASSY, CAIRO, WHO HAS SOME PRIOR LOS EXPERIENCE.
MAESTRONE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW OF THE SEA, PLANNING MEEINGS, MEETING PROCEEDINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977KUWAIT00331
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770017-1303
Format: TEL
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770142/aaaabkrx.tel
Line Count: 111
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 587d47d5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION DLOS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 9443, 76 KUWAIT 3915, 76 STATE 236687
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3574120
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LOS: REGIONAL ARAB MEETING IN CAIRO, JANUARY 18
TAGS: PLOS, KU, XF
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/587d47d5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009